

- **SYLLABUS: CSU FULLERTON SPRING 2016 / CPRL 351-50 16832 -- ONLINE SECTION]**

## **HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF EARLY CHRISTIAN THOUGHT**

- **INSTRUCTOR: DR. BRAD STARR [Professor]**
- **OFFICE HOURS: TR 9:30-11:00; ONLINE EMAIL T 12:30-1:30.**
- **INSTRUCTOR OFFICE: UH 310; EMAIL: [bstarr@fullerton.edu](mailto:bstarr@fullerton.edu) PHONE: (657) 278-3917**
- **DEPARTMENT OFFICE: UH 313 PHONE: (657) 278-2442**
- **NOTE: For this course, the week begins Sunday 12AM and ends Sunday 11:55PM [Weeks overlap on Sunday].**

### **1. GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Internet:** This section is offered via the Internet. There are no on-campus meetings. All assignments, including all exams, will be conducted online. You must use a computer with a high speed Internet connection (e.g., DSL or cable).

This course is a user-friendly, step-by-step learning endeavor. Taking an on-line course requires motivation and commitment. You must keep up with the assignments. You will participate in this class through your on-time completion of the assignments. This is a three-unit course, requiring approximately five hours of your time per week – usually a minimum of three hours and no more than eight hours. If you ever have any questions or difficulties, I am readily available via either Email, telephone, or on-campus office. Email responses are normally returned within 12 hours (seven days a week). I normally check Email periodically from 8 am to 8 pm daily. Please resend if you do not receive a response within 24 hours, and leave a voicemail. Be sure to read this entire syllabus, including “Technical Competencies” section below.

### **2. PURPOSE and OBJECTIVES OF THIS COURSE**

This course is designed to take students into the intellectual world of Christian thought from its beginnings through the theological system of Thomas Aquinas.

### **3. CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

CPRL 351 History and Development of Early Christian Thought (3) Prerequisite: completion of the G.E. Category C.2. Historical study of the diversity of Christian beliefs, movements and key figures from New Testament times to the late Middle Ages, including such topics as important creeds and councils, spiritual movements, and central figures such as Augustine and Aquinas.

### **4. COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- To provide substantial knowledge and analysis of the central figures, concepts, and historical context of the great thinkers and concepts of the Christian intellectual tradition.
- To help students learn to read and critically understand primary texts written by these thinkers.

- To develop student understanding of the processes whereby religions in general, Christianity in particular, have integrated and modified the intellectual resources available in their surrounding cultures.
- To develop understanding of the variety that has characterized Christian intellectual expression.
- To develop intellectual and philosophical sophistication in the understanding of religious thought.

## **5. COURSE APPROACH**

This course is rigorous and exploratory in nature, combining reading and online lecture. Lecture material is substantive and thorough. The reading assignments for this course are relatively modest in length, but students are expected to do them carefully and well. Please note that this course is not a religious course. It is a course about religion. The course is not about the belief or unbelief of the instructor or the students, nor about the truth or falsity of the beliefs of those we'll be studying, but about our understanding of the beliefs of those figures.

## **6. OTHER INFORMATION**

This course fulfills GE C.3 Explorations in the Humanities. (If you wish to pursue a minor in Religious Studies or a minor in Christian Studies, you can “double count” this course for GE and the minor – up to nine units of GE courses from one department may be used to meet minor requirements. If you are a major in Religious Studies, this class counts as one course toward your upper division “Development of Western Religious Thought” requirement, but cannot count for GE.). For more information, see LEARNING GOALS AND OTHER INFORMATION RELATED TO THIS COURSE at the bottom of this syllabus.

## **7. REQUIRED TEXTS**

- Justo Gonzalez, *Story of Christianity, Volume 1, Revised 2010*
- Online Readings Posted on or linked via TITANIUM. Adobe Acrobat is required.

Note: Gonzalez is available at The Little Professor Book Center, 725 Placentia Ave (cross street, Nutwood Ave.). Ph. 996-3133.

## **8. COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **A. WEEKLY REQUIREMENTS: EACH WEEK THERE ARE FOUR BASIC TASKS:**

- 1. Download the Study Guide [as well as Power Point Slides if desired]**
- 2. Watch the lecture videos – about 2 hours**
- 3. Read the assignments [Recommended Assignments are not required]**
- 4. Prepare for and take the quiz [15-25 minutes allowed]**

**1. WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE:** There will be a study guide posted in the BLOCK for each week. This is a list of the key themes and concepts you should look out for as you work through the activities related to the course subject matter. You will not be turning in this guide. It is just a tool to help you keep a record of what you are learning so that you can ace the quiz that comes at the end of each

week. I would advise you to print out the guide and use it to take notes. **In addition, for most sessions, the Slides used in the videos will also be available for download in 6/page PDF format.**

**2. LECTURE VIDEOS:** Each week you will need to devote about 2 hours to watch posted lecture video material. These videos are presented in 20-30 minutes segments. Naturally, you don't need to watch the video material all at once. But you do need to set aside the time to watch these videos. You should also use the study guide to take notes on these materials. **NOTE: I recommend the following You Tube settings: QUALITY: 480; SPEED: 1.25.**

**3. READ THE ASSIGNED MATERIALS:** I would advise **starting with the Gonzalez reading, and, where I've made the assignment, the reading from Herr.** Then do the other readings, which are usually excerpts from key early Christian texts and thinkers themselves. The latter can be challenging to read. I've kept them fairly brief, but if you've listened attentively to the lecture videos, and read Gonzalez and Herr, you'll be able to follow what's going on fairly easily. Completing the Recommended Readings is encouraged but not required.

**4. PREPARE FOR AND TAKE THE QUIZ.** These quizzes are **timed at about a minute per question, with about 15-25 questions per quiz.** The questions are usually **objective style questions** (basically multiple choice and True/False), but there may also be a few questions requiring a sentence or two. **Open the quiz only when you are prepared to complete it. If you leave the quiz, you won't be able to get back in. Make sure you have a secure internet connection. Quizzes must be completed sometime between Sunday 12AM and Sunday 11:55PM.**

**HERE'S AN IMPORTANT TIP:** *Take good notes on your study guide, and use this guide to prepare for the quiz. You won't have time to look up the answers once you are in the quiz frame, and extra time will not be granted. So prepare, and have your notated study guide handy just in case.*

## **B. TWO INTERMITTENT REQUIREMENTS**

**1. FORUM POSTINGS.** The class has been divided into **FOUR GROUPS: A B C D.** At the top of the TITANIUM site you will find a link to the list that shows which group you are in. Each member of one of those groups will be assigned to post a comment on the course materials for each week. This is not a group assignment. Post your comment sometime between SUNDAY and SUNDAY 11:55 PM of your week. **GRADING:** Posts will be evaluated on a Full Credit/Partial Credit/No Credit (10/5/0 pts.) basis, on grounds of relevance to the subject matter and quality of reflection.

- These are mandatory postings, and there are no make-ups, so don't forget.
- The post should be 4-8 sentences (no less than 4) – just your reflections, comments, or questions or a combination of these.
- **This is not a forum to discuss other issues, post news items, or evaluate the class sessions, me, or posts of other students. Avoid sermons and Bible study-style devotional remarks. Any student can post a response to your post, but there is no requirement to do so. I will, however, provide a written response to each post.**

- **Be polite and professional in your postings.** For online “netiquette” see <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>
- Members of each group will be required to post comments during 3 designated weeks over the course of the semester. You can post anytime, of course, and ask any questions... but for grading purposes, only the posts by members of the designated group will be counted toward your grade.

## **2. TWO ESSAYS**

**A. MIDTERM ESSAY:** Midway through the course essay questions will be posted on topics from the first half of the semester. Essays will be 3-4 paragraphs long. I will select one of these questions. **You will upload your essay during the midterm week. Be sure to have your essays prepared in advance, as there will be a time limit on the upload, and no late essays will be accepted.**

**B. FINAL ESSAYS:** 2 or 3 essay questions will be posted the week before our final exam week. The selected essay or essays will be due by the date specified in the Course Schedule below. I will select one or more of these questions. The questions will ask you to address material from the second half of the semester. **Be sure to have your essays prepared in advance, as there will be a time limit on the upload, and no late essays will be accepted.**

The essays for both the midterm and the final are assigned to comply with the university GE writing requirement policy. For our class, these are not research papers and you are not permitted to use any other materials except lecture material and assigned readings.

### **CRITERIA FOR GRADING MIDTERM AND FINAL ESSAYS:**

- **GENERAL:** Your essays will be graded on the basis of (a) clarity, (b) accuracy, (c) critical and comprehensive understanding, (d) observance of principles of good writing, and (e) overall coherence and organization.
- For help identifying and avoiding comma splices, run-on sentences, sentence fragments, and other writing mistakes, click here: [<http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/index2.htm>]

## **9. COURSE GRADING**

I'll average the points of all assignments in terms of a percentage out of 100. Then I will weight these averages in accordance with the following scale:

- 1. QUIZZES = 65%**
- 2. MIDTERM ESSAYS = 25%**
- 3. FORUM POSTS = 10%**

**For the semester: 90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69 = D, 0-59 = F. [No +/- in this class]**

**EXTRA CREDIT:** There will likely be at least one extra credit opportunity in this class. Any opportunities will be announced in TITANIUM as the semester progresses.

**MAKE-UPS AND INCOMPLETES:** Please note that there are no make-ups for any assignments unless you present a compelling justification for your request. Make-ups under any other circumstances are not fair to other students. You might be required to provide documentation via a scan or photograph. Any such request must be made within 24 hours of the missed assignment. Please note that I almost never give INCOMPLETES. There must be a compelling emergency that prevents completion of the course.

## **10. POLICY ON ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

- “Academic dishonesty includes such things as cheating, inventing false information or citations, plagiarism, and helping someone else commit an act of academic dishonesty” (UPS 300.021). <http://www.fullerton.edu/senate/documents/PDF/300/UPS300-021.pdf>
- Cheating: “Cheating is defined as the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for work by the use of any dishonest, deceptive, fraudulent, or unauthorized means. Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: using notes or aides or the help of other students on tests and examinations in ways other than those expressly permitted by the instructor” (UPS 300.021). In addition: Your TITANIUM usage will be tracked. Anomalies will be discussed with the student and reviewed for possible plagiarism (e.g., copying another person’s quiz answers).
- It is expected that YOU will answer all quiz and essay questions. Copying from another student’s essay is cheating. Copying another student’s quiz answers is cheating.
- Plagiarism: “Plagiarism is defined as the act of taking the work of another and offering it as one’s own without giving credit to that source. When sources are used in a paper, acknowledgement of the original author or source must be made through appropriate references and, if directly quoted, quotation marks or indentations must be used” (UPS 300.021). Having another person write one or more of your essays or paragraph postings is plagiarism.
- Penalties: The minimum penalty for cheating or for plagiarism will be an “F” on the assignment (zero points), without the possibility to re-do the work. In addition, the final course grade will be no higher than a “C” regardless of the final point total. Depending upon the severity of the offense, a final course grade of “F” may be assigned. In all cases the Dean of Students Office, Judicial Affairs will be notified.
- Plagiarism is a serious issue. It is the student’s responsibility to be clear of the meaning of plagiarism. See the Student Guide to Avoiding Plagiarism and other resources at: <http://www.fullerton.edu/deanofstudents/judicial/Academic%20Integrity%20Resources.asp>

## **11. MISCELLANEOUS**

- **SPECIAL NEEDS:**  
During the first week of classes, inform me of any disabilities or special needs that you have that may require special arrangements (such as extra time for the quizzes and final exam). Students with disabilities need to document the disability at the Disability Support Services office in UH 101. <http://www.fullerton.edu/DSS/>

- **POLLAK LIBRARY POLICY FOR ONLINE INSTRUCTION STUDENTS**  
<http://www.library.fullerton.edu/about/guidelines/online-instruction-guidelines.php>
- **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES:**  
In the event of a public emergency (e.g., earthquake), please continue to check TITANium as our course assignments will continue—provided there is electricity and Internet connectivity. For more information, please see the following link. <http://prepare.fullerton.edu/>

## **12. TECHNICAL COMPETENCIES**

### **Overview:**

To complete this course, you will need a computer with high speed Internet access (e.g., DSL or cable).

### **Minimum Hardware:**

- 1.0 GHz processor (recommended 2.0 GHz or higher, e.g., AMD Athlon 64 3200; Intel Celeron D; Intel Pentium D; Intel Pentium 4; Intel Core 2; Intel i3, i5, i7)
- 1 GB RAM recommended
- Modem – DSL or cable modem is required; (not dial-up).
- Computer speakers or headphones [as an alternative, all spoken words are captioned]
- Printer (strongly recommended, but not required)

### **Minimum Software:**

- Windows 2000/XP, Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8, or Mac OS X 10.2 or later
- Microsoft Word, OR WordPerfect, OR word processing software compatible with Turnitin.com (save as RTF).
- Web browser: Firefox preferred; Internet Explorer 7.0 or higher, Safari and Chrome are usually compatible.
  - Firefox: [www.mozilla.com](http://www.mozilla.com) ;
  - Internet Explorer free download: <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/>
  - Adobe Reader (PDF) <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>

### **Additional Requirements:**

- By the end of the first week of the course, you must test and resolve any technology issues.
- Your TITANium usage will be tracked. Anomalies will be discussed with the student and reviewed for possible plagiarism (e.g., copying another person's quiz answers).
- You will complete work on TITANium. **If you fail to complete the assignments due at the end of the first week of class you may be dropped from the course.** (See above "Participation.")
- Authentication of Student work is important in an online class. This is accomplished by requiring multiple measures of student performance, including postings, quizzes, essays, and a final exam.
- Appropriate online "netiquette." See <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>
- In the event of technical problems, contact the helpdesk or use another computer (e.g., at the library) to complete tasks on-time; Email the instructor for permission for alternate submission procedures.

### **Technical Help:**

- View the "TITANium Moodle for Students" Tutorials by CSUF OASIS (Online Academic Strategies and Instructional Support) at <http://oasis.fullerton.edu/tutorials.aspx>

- CSUF OASIS is available to help students with TITANIum from 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 A.M., Monday through Friday and will address inquiries received over a weekend upon return Monday morning. 657-278-4866; [oasis@fullerton.edu](mailto:oasis@fullerton.edu); <http://oasis.fullerton.edu>
- CSUF Help Desk for technical problems: 657-278-8888; [helpdesk@fullerton.edu](mailto:helpdesk@fullerton.edu)
- If you have technical difficulties (e.g., in completing a quiz or posting a paper) do not panic (even if you miss the due date/time, don't panic). As you try to resolve the difficulty, send me an Email explaining the problem and I will make allowance and/or provide an alternate delivery method.
- If your computer crashes, it is your responsibility to find another computer to use, such as the library computers.

## **SEMESTER SCHEDULE**

- NOTE: For this course, the week begins Sunday 12AM and ends Sunday 11:55PM. There is an overlap on Sundays to allow for student scheduling flexibility.
- IT IS POSSIBLE THAT ADJUSTMENTS MIGHT NEED TO BE MADE TO THIS SCHEDULE. I PROMISE TIMELY AND FAIR NOTIFICATION IF THIS NEED ARISES.
- NOTE THAT IF THERE IS A DISCREPANCY BETWEEN THE SCHEDULE BELOW AND THE TITANIUM SCHEDULE, TITANIUM TAKES PRECEDENCE AND SHOULD BE FOLLOWED.
- NOTE: I recommend the following You Tube settings: QUALITY: 480; SPEED: 1.25.

### **1 -1/24 Introduction to course/syllabus; Background: Some Basic Terms and Concepts**

- Read Syllabus
- Watch "Basic Terms and Concepts" Video.
- QUIZ 1
- No forum assignment. Contact instructor with any questions about the course and syllabus.

### **2 - 1/31 Jewish Context; Jesus of Nazareth**

- SC 13-30
- Reading from Gospel of Matthew [TT]
- Harris, "Seeking to Know Jesus of Nazareth" [TT]
- Wilken, "Beginning in Jerusalem"
- QUIZ 2
- FORUM ASSIGNMENT: GROUP A

### **3 - 2/7 Paul and the Early Christin Communities; Greco-Roman Religion**

- SC 31-39
- Paul: Readings from letters [TT]
- Harris, "Paul and the Gentile Mission" [TT]
- Ehrman, "Religions of the Greco-Roman World" [TT]
- QUIZ 3
- FORUM: GROUP B

### **4 - 2/14 Greco-Roman Philosophical traditions; Martyrdom: Ignatius of Antioch**

- SC 41-58
- Ignatius, from "Letter to the Romans" [TT]

- “The Martyrdoms of Perpetua and Felicitas” [TT]
- QUIZ 4
- **FORUM: GROUP C**

### 5 – 2/21 Justin Martyr; Four Heresies: Marcionism, Gnosticism, Montanism, Ebionism

- SC 59-81
- Justin, from *First and Second Apologies* [TT]
- RECOMMENDED READINGS
  - Ehrman, Ebionites and Marcionites [TT]
  - Ehrman, Gnosticism [TT]
- QUIZ 5
- **FORUM: GROUP D**

### 6 - 2/28 Proto-Orthodox Thinkers 1: Irenaeus; The Alexandrians

- SC 83-117
- RECOMMENDED READINGS
  - Irenaeus, from *Against Heresies* [TT]
  - Clement, from *Stromata* [TT]
  - Origen, from *de Principiis* [TT]
- QUIZ 6
- FORUM: GROUP A

### 7 – 3/6 Proto-Orthodox Thinkers 2: Tertullian; Constantine; Eusebius; Monasticism

- SC 131-172
- Eusebius, On the Conversion of Constantine [TT]
- RECOMMENDED READINGS
  - Tertullian, Excerpts from various writings [TT]
  - St. Zosimus, “Encounter with St. Mary of Egypt” (ST)
- QUIZ 7
- FORUM: GROUP B
- **MIDTERM ESSAY QUESTIONS POSTED**

### 8 – 3/13 Trinitarian Debates: Early Debates; Athanasius against Arius; Constantinople in 381

- SC 181-217
- RECOMMENDED READINGS
  - Athanasius, Excerpts from *On the Incarnation of the Word* [TT]
- QUIZ 8
- **MIDTERM ESSAY DUE: ESSAYS CAN BE UPLOADED ANYTIME MARCH 13-20 (11:55 PM)**
- FORUM: NO ASSIGNMENT

### 9 – 3/20 Christological Debates; Augustine Part 1

- SC 295-313; 241-261
- Augustine, Selections from *Confessions* [TT]
- QUIZ 9
- FORUM: GROUP C

**3/27 YOU DESERVE A WEEK OFF!!**

**10 - 4/3 AUGUSTINE Parts 2 & 3**

- Herr, Plato and Augustine [TT]
- Herr, Augustine [TT]
- RECOMMENDED READINGS
  - Augustine, from Book One, *On Christian Doctrine* [TT]
  - Augustine, from *The City of God* [TT]
- QUIZ 10
- FORUM: GROUP D

**11 – 4/10 BACKGROUND ELEMENTS OF THE MEDIEVAL WORLD; ANSELM OF CANTERBURY PART 1**

- SC 269-293; 315-356
- RECOMMENDED READINGS
  - Anselm, from *Proslogion* [TT]
- QUIZ 11
- FORUM: GROUP A

**12 – 4/17 ANSELM OF CANTERBURY PART 2; PETER ABELARD**

- SC 357-385
- Herr, Anselm and Abelard [TT]
- Anselm, from *Meditation on Human Redemption* [TT]
- Peter Abelard, from *Exposition on the Epistle to the Romans* [TT]
- RECOMMENDED READINGS
  - Peter Abelard, Two selections from *Sic et Non* [TT]
- QUIZ 12
- FORUM: GROUP B

**13 – 4/24 BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX: HILDEGARD OF BINGEN**

- Bernard of Clairvaux, from *On Loving God* [TT]
- Hildegard, Reading 1: Introduction [TT]
- Hildegard, Reading 2: from *Scivias* [TT]
- Hildegard, Reading 3: *Letter* [TT]
- QUIZ 13
- FORUM: GROUP C

**14 – 5/1 FRANCIS OF ASSISI; RISE OF THE UNIVERSITY; REDISCOVERY OF ARISTOTLE**

- Francis, “Canticle of the Creatures”
- Herr, Aristotle [TT]
- Starr, Some Basics of Aristotle
- QUIZ 14
- FORUM: GROUP D

**15 – 5/8 THOMAS AQUINAS**

- Herr, Albert and Aquinas [TT]
- Herr, Thomas Aquinas [TT]
- RECOMMENDED READINGS
  - Thomas Aquinas, from *Summa Theologiae*: Sacred Doctrine; The Five Ways
  - Thomas Aquinas, from *Summa Theologiae*: Treatise on Law

- QUIZ 15
- FORUM: NO ASSIGNMENT
- MID TERM ESSAY QUESTIONS POSTED

**5/15 - FINAL EXAM ESSAYS: Due anytime between SUNDAY 12 AM MAY 15 and THURSDAY MAY 19 at 11:55 PM. No late essays will be accepted.**

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**LEARNING GOALS AND OTHER INFORMATION RELATED TO THIS COURSE: CPRL 351**

**Prerequisite:** Completion of GE C.2 Introduction to the Humanities.

**General Education:**

This course fulfills GE C.3 Explorations in the Humanities. (If you wish to pursue a minor in Religious Studies or a minor in Christian Studies, you can “double count” this course for GE and the minor – up to nine units of GE courses from one department may be used to meet minor requirements. If you are a major in Religious Studies, this class counts as one course toward your upper division “Development of Western Religious Thought” requirement, but cannot count for GE.)

**General Education Learning Goals applied to this Course (UPS 411.201, 6/20/11)**

*The learning goals for subarea C.3 include the learning goals for area C.2, namely:*

- a. Cultivate their intellectual reasoning skills, expand their capacity for creative imagination, develop their reasonable moral sensibilities, and increase their capacity for sensitive engagement through studying great works of human imagination and reason (which are to be primarily—although not exclusively—written texts and literature).
- b. Understand how the humanities have contributed to the development of culture, including the comparative study of the humanities in diverse cultures.
- c. Understand how the humanities have sought to provide answers to complex problems facing humanity, including the relationship of the self to culture and the natural world, the nature of moral and legal obligations, and the meaning and purpose of human existence

*In addition, students taking courses in subarea C.3. shall:*

- a. Understand broad, unifying themes from cross-disciplinary perspectives in the humanities.
- b. Understand the relevance of the humanities for the thoughtful consideration of complex contemporary problems.
- c. Appreciate the complex relationship and interaction between the humanities and other fields of learning, including the natural sciences, social sciences, and arts.

**GE Writing Requirement:**

The writing assignment is designed to meet the General Education writing requirement. The substance as well as the manner of organization and expression of the information and ideas will be evaluated. In other words, the content as well as the style and grammar of the paper will be graded. To encourage each student to advance his/her writing competence, the assessment of all papers will include suggestions for improvement on papers for future courses.

**Department of Comparative Religion Student Learning Goals & Outcomes:**

All students majoring in Religious Studies shall achieve competence in the following domains of skill and knowledge:

**A. Skills**

**Learning Goal: Students possess the ability to perform research and interpret materials related to the study of religion.**

Outcome 1: Students can analyze written materials related to the study of religion.

Outcome 2: Students have acquired information literacy in the study of religion.

**Learning Goal: Students can effectively communicate in written and spoken mediums.**

Outcome 3: Students are able to write well-organized critical and analytical research papers related to the study of religion.

Outcome 4: Students are able to speak clearly and effectively using relevant and adequate supporting evidence.

**B. Knowledge**

**Learning Goal: Students can demonstrate an understanding of the beliefs, rituals, texts, and figures related to a variety of religious traditions.**

Outcome 5: Students can describe the basic teachings and practices of major religious traditions and can compare and contrast the principal similarities and differences between them.

Outcome 6: Students are able to identify the history and development of specific religions and their contemporary relevance.

Outcome 7: Students can compare key theories and theorists in the study of religion.

Outcome 8: Students can interpret key thinkers and figures within religious traditions